



WINGTIPS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MINNESOTA WING – CIVIL AIR PATROL

AUGUST 2002

Minnesota Wing a Part of the “Great Minnesota Get Together”



C/1st Lt Kevin Kroll of St Croix Sqdn explains his field pack to a prospective member at the Minnesota State Fair's CAP Booth. Photo: Minnesota Wing/PA



Col Kevin Sliwinski and friends put together CAP Paper Airplanes at the 2002 Minnesota State Fair CAP Booth. Photo: Minnesota Wing/PA

Wing Recruiting coordinated a Recruiting/Information Booth at the 2002 State Fair in St Paul. From 24 August to 3 September over 100 members of the wing representing 11 units, Wing Headquarters and the Liaison Office.

“They did an outstanding job of showcasing CAP and presenting our programs in a professional manner to a huge audience.” Said Col Dale Hoium, Wing Commander.

The booth is part of the Division of Aeronautics Exhibit Area. Each year the division showcases aviation and a variety of aviation organizations. CAP has been part of this Aerospace Extravaganza for the past several years. Nearly 1.7 million people attended this year's fair.

“Without the support of the division and of our squadrons and members this premier recruiting and marketing event just would not happen. I am very grateful for the outstanding support this event receives.” said 1st Lt Al Pabon, Wing Recruiting Officer.

Here is a listing of the units that participated:

130th, St Paul, North Hennepin, Valley, North Star, St Cloud, St Croix, Viking, Hutchinson, Fort Snelling, Anoka, CAP-USAF Liaison Office, and the MN Wing Staff (Admin and CS Training and CS Support)

In this Issue of WingTips!

**Commander's Corner - Minnesota's Newest Spaatz Cadets
SAR Evaluation and ES Training - Lt Col Theis Retires - and More!**



Commander's Comments

Col Dale Hoium
cc@mnwg.cap.gov

When I was at the last MN Aviation Advisory Council meeting the Adopt an Airport Program was brought up. I mentioned this a few months ago in an article.

On 20 July 2002 the first Adopt an Airport ceremony took place at Cook. There were three different organizations adopting the airport. Ray Rought, the Director of the Office of Aeronautics and Commissioner Tinklenberg were on hand.

A very nice sign is put up with the names of the organizations that are adopting the airport. The Adopt an Airport Program is to allow community groups and individuals to get involved with their airports. Those that adopt an airport would do such things as keep the airport looking nice, plant some flowers, help secure the airport in the event of another attack and the list could go on.

What a great opportunity for the Civil Air Patrol. Every unit that is based on an airport should join this program. All you need to do is contact the local Airport Manager and find out what is needed. The Airport Manager contacts the Office of Aeronautics and they take care of the rest. Units that are not based on an airport, adopt one close to you.

What a way to be of benefit to your community and airport. What an opportunity for local media coverage for your unit. Consider what your unit has to offer the local airport and talk to the Airport Manager about it.

There are two other airports that have been adopted, Alexandria and Duluth. Congressman Oberstar and Commissioner Tinkleberg are invited to speak at the Duluth adoption.

This is a great program for the airports and the Civil Air Patrol. It is tailor made for our organization. If the Airport Manager is not aware of this program

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please go to WingTips Plus!
The Electronic Supplement to WingTips!
www.mnwg.cap.gov/wingtips**

Cadet Milestone Awards

Lt Gen Ira Eaker Award

Paul Dannenbring, Duluth Sqdn

Gen Carl Spaatz Award

John Houck, Anoka County Sqdn

Senior Member Awards

Certificate of Proficiency (Level 2)

1st Lt Scott Frankard, Viking Sqdn

Grover Loening Award (Level 3)

Capt Blaze Cunningham, Red Wing Sqdn

Paul E. Garber Award (Level 4)

Major Douglas Kilian, Fort Snelling Sqdn

Senior Member Promotions

1st Lt Brian Grey, Cass Co Sr Sqdn
2d Lt Charles Tennesen, 130th Sqdn
2d Lt Sandra Willhite, 130th Sqdn

Please send information on all cadet promotions to
pa@mnwg.cap.gov

Anoka Cadet Earns the Spaatz Award



C/Col Jack Houck of Anoka County Composite Squadron is the wing's newest recipient of the General Carl Spaatz Award. His award number is 1472.

C/Col Houck is studying at Virginia Technical Institute.

C/Col Houck joined CAP in 1998 and has had a number for leadership positions in his unit including a year as Cadet Commander. Cadet Houck has also been a leader at the wing level. He was commander of the 5th Cadet Training Squadron, Cadet Commander of the 2001 Basic Cadet Officer's Course, 2001-2002 Cadet Advisory Council Chair and Vice Chair of the Region CAC.

Information on the award presentation will be published soon.

Former Viking Cadet Earns Spaatz Award

Major Shannon Bauer

1st Lt. Rachel Davis of Viking Composite Squadron has earned the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award, the highest cadet achievement in Civil Air Patrol.

Davis, who took this test two years ago, thought she missed it by 1.7 percent, attaining the score of 78.3. National Headquarters CAP recently discovered a discrepancy with one of the answer keys used to correct the leadership portion of the Spaatz Award examination. For two questions, on CAPT 68-1, the answer key was incorrect. Upon an audit of all Spaatz examinations administered during the past three years, it was discovered that Davis, along with one other cadet, passed the leadership exam with a grade of 80 percent.

The Spaatz Award, Civil Air Patrol's highest cadet award, has existed since 1964. The award honors the late General Carl A. Spaatz, who became the first U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff on Sept. 26, 1947. General Spaatz (pronounced "spots") was also CAP's first National Board Chairman, a position he held from May 26, 1948 to April 27, 1959.

To understand the prestige of this award, less than one percent of all cadets ever achieve it. Davis is one of less than 1,500 cadets to have earned it since 1964. On average, there are usually around 26,000 cadets in Civil Air Patrol at any one time. Only 24 Minnesota cadets have ever received the Spaatz Award; Davis will be number 25.

Minnesota Wing SAR/DR Eval and SAREX

Lt Col Stan Kegel

I would like to thank everyone involved last weekend in our two exercises, the SAR/DR Eval and the SAREX. A lot of people put in a lot of hard work.

Minnesota Wing was given a 'satisfactory' grade for our performance at the eval. A grade of 'satisfactory' means that we performed well -- we met all of the performance standards and we demonstrated our proficiency in being able to carry out the search and rescue and disaster relief missions that we are responsible for. The evaluators were quite complementary to us, and on several occasions during the staff debriefing, they described our performance as strong.

Those of us that have been in CAP many years may remember that, in the past, it was fairly common to be given higher ratings such as 'excellent'. It is important for us all to know that, as of a couple years ago, the grading scale changed.

'Excellent' ratings are now given out very rarely. The grade of 'satisfactory' is considered the standard. Higher grades require exceptional performance in some way above and beyond what is expected and required. Since the base expectations are quite high, the higher marks are rare.

The work we do to meet the standards isn't easy, and requires a great amount of dedication, training, and practice. We can all take pride in our performance.

Lt Col Theis Retires

Lt Col Tom Theis, a member since 1980, is transferring to Retirement Status, effective 1 OCT 02.

During those 22 years, Lt Col Theis commanded the Bloomington Squadron, Viking Squadron; Group III HQ; North Hennepin Squadron; West Metro Squadron; Valley Squadron and served as Deputy Commander the St Paul Squadron.

He most recently served as the Cadet Programs Director, Inspector and Assistant Inspector for Minnesota Wing.

We wish Lt Col Theis well in his future endeavors.

Final Flight

A long time member of the Hutchinson Squadron, Capt Bob Kizer, passed away on Thursday August 29th.

He died of complications from Leukemia which resulted in congestive heart failure.

Our sincerest sympathies go out to the family of Capt Kizer and the Hutchinson Squadron.

MINNESOTA WING CALENDAR

THE CALENDAR IS ON THE WING WEBSITE AT
WWW.MNWG.CAP.GOV/CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2002

7-8 Fri-Sat Wings & Wheels @ Osceola Airport
7-15 Fri-Sun Unit Based SAREX
7-8,14 Sat-Sun Instrument Ground School
17 Mon U. S. Air Force established (1947)

OCTOBER 2002

14 Mon Columbus Day. Wing staff meets
10-13 Thu-Sun CC's Workshop & CC Call
12-13 Sat-Sun IG – Investigating Officer's Course
17-20 Thur-Sun Cadet NCOS and BCOC Courses

The Richard I. Bong World War II Heritage Center on East Second Street, Superior, Wisconsin will open on 24 Sep.2002, Maj. Bong's birthday. The opening festivities will feature celebrity speakers and a fly-over by Air National Guard, F-16 and Air Force F-15 fighter aircraft.

Maj. Bong, from Poplar Wisconsin, became America's all-time Ace of Aces, downing 40 enemy planes in the Pacific Theater during World War II flying P-38 fighter aircraft. His many decorations include the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was killed test piloting the first Lockheed jet fighter, the P-80 Shooting Star, in 1945 at the age of 24. More information can be found at

<http://www.bongheritagecenter.org>

Aerospace Education News

Col Kevin Sliwinski
cst@mnwg.cap.gov

Look to the sky: Sagittarius (the teapot) is in the Southern sky. It looks like it is pouring tea on the Scorpion's stinger. The blue star in the Scorpions tail is Shaula. It is the 21st brightest star in the sky. The way I remember the name of this star is that it provides a shawl to protect the scorpion's tail from the hot tea. If you look to the north, the Constellation Cassiopeia looks like a chair or a W on its side. It is east of the North Star (Polaris). If you remember that the North Star tries to sit in the chair, you can always tell if Polaris is slightly left or right of True North. If you want to see and print out monthly sky maps, go to <http://www.skymaps.com/>. September 22nd is the first day of Autumn. This day is called the Autumnal Equinox because the sun is over the equator and if you were on the equator, you would have equal day and night time.

Congratulations to 2d Lt. Matthew Barrett from the St. Paul Sq. for completing the requirements for the Brigadier General Charles (Chuck) Yeager Award.

Aviation history buffs: *LOGBOOK* is an outstanding aviation history magazine (lots of photo's) that is published quarterly. Cost \$16.00/yr. PO Box 31, Pensacola, FL 32951-0031, www.logbookmag.com

Wingtips

Minnesota Wing—Civil Air Patrol
United States Air Force Auxiliary
P.O. Box 1230, St. Paul, MN 55111

Or on the Web at: www.mnwg.cap.gov/wingtips

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Wing Commander: Col. Dale Hoium
Public Affairs Officer: 1st Lt Al Pabon

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